



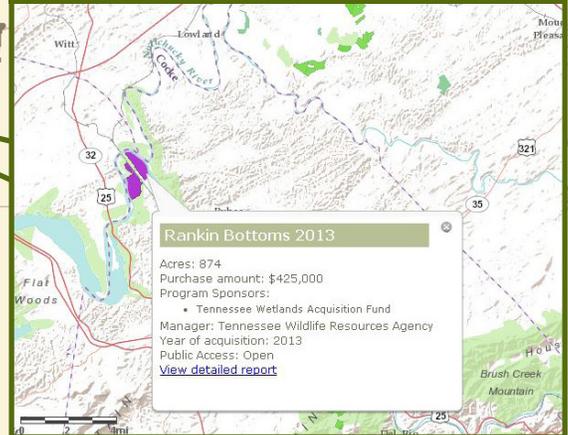
# CONSERVATION ALMANAC

Tracking Investments in Protected Lands

## State Dollars Spent and Acres Conserved (1998-2011)\*

State	Dollars	Acres
Tennessee	\$154,066,694	151,084
Kentucky	\$66,865,663	85,953
Arkansas	\$55,189,451	78,839
Mississippi	\$24,531,541	26,341

## Example Almanac Parcel Map



# STATE HIGHLIGHTS IN CONSERVATION: *Tennessee*

## Conservation in Tennessee

A 1991 amendment by the Tennessee General Assembly doubled the amount of the real estate transfer tax revenue dedicated to conservation to \$0.08 per \$100 of value. A total of 394,882 acres were conserved in the state from 1998-2013, and over \$428 million was invested in land conservation and natural resource protection.

## Spending for acquisition by level of government, 1998-2013\*\*



## State Investment in Land Conservation

Tennessee funds land conservation mainly with revenue from a real estate transfer tax (RETT).

- Tennessee charges a RETT of \$0.37 per \$100 of value. Three state conservation funds support land acquisition:
  - Wetlands Acquisition Fund - receives \$0.035 per \$100 from RETT. Established in 1986 to acquire wetlands and watersheds.
  - Local Parks and Recreation Fund - established in 1991 through the RETT amendment. Receives \$0.0175 per \$100 from RETT to acquire land parks, natural areas, greenways, and more. Requires a 50% local match.
  - State Lands Acquisition Fund - established in 1991 through the RETT amendment. Receives \$0.150 per \$100 to acquire land or easements for state parks, forests, and other areas.
- Heritage Conservation Trust Fund - established in 2005 and funded through two \$10 million general fund appropriations (\$20 million total). Inactive since 2008.

## Local Investment

Counties and municipalities in Tennessee may issue general obligation bonds to acquire land for parks, watershed protection, floodplain management, farmland, and cultural/historic preservation. They are also authorized to levy a local sales tax of up to 2.75% for land acquisition, management, or maintenance.

No county level land conservation measures have been approved by Tennessee voters. In 2004, voters in Knoxville approved a one cent, Penny for the Parks, sales tax for a trust fund for parks, greenways, and historic preservation, which raises an estimated \$250,000 annually.

## Federal Investment

The following federal programs and federal agencies have contributed funds and conserved land in Tennessee:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - LWCF Federal
  - North American Wetlands Conservation Act
  - Section 6 Grant
- U.S. Forest Service
  - Forest Legacy Program (FLP)
  - LWCF Federal
- U.S. National Park Service
  - LWCF Stateside

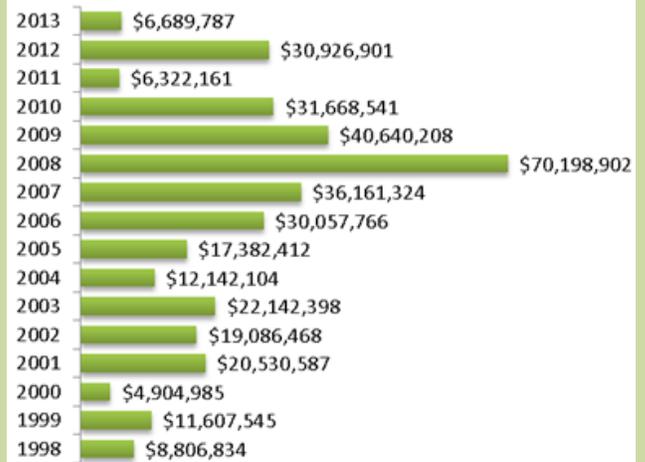
Note: Parcel-level spatial data is not available for all records included in the Conservation Almanac. In Tennessee we have mapped 45 percent of acres and 42 percent of dollars, shown as points on this map.

\*2011 is the year through which most states are updated.  
\*\*Statistics are generated using data collected for and included in the Conservation Almanac. Almanac data collection efforts focus on land conserved using public dollars. 'Other' includes contributions funded by private, NGO and unknown funders, and may not be comprehensive.  
\*\*\*Data current as of August 2015.

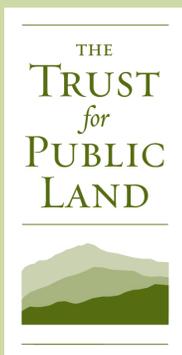
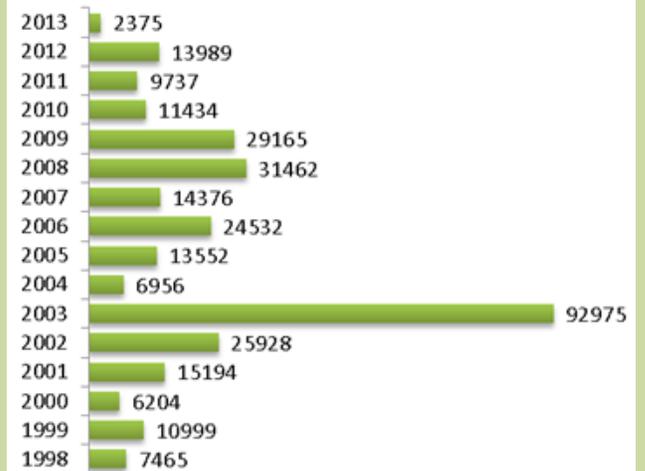
## Conservation Snapshot

The tables below provide a snapshot look at land conservation activity through the most common available metrics: public dollars spent and acres conserved. These charts omit parcels not classified as fee simple purchases or conservation easements.

Public Dollars Spent Annually for Conservation, 1998-2013\*\*



Total Acres Conserved Annually, 1998-2013\*\*



*The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.*

*[tpl.org](http://tpl.org)  
[conservationalmnanc.org](http://conservationalmnanc.org)*

## THE CONSERVATION ALMANAC

A comprehensive database of land conservation and conservation funding in America, the Conservation Almanac provides a context for assessing impacts of conservation and the growing conservation finance movement. The Almanac offers information on public dollars spent and acres conserved, details on local, state, and federal conservation programs, and provides geospatial mapping of conserved land.